

Message Text

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45

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, ACLM, GW, GE, GR, US

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION WITH GOG ON GDR WORLD WAR I DEBTS

REF: STATE 054406

1- GREEK MFA LEGAL ADVISOR ZOTIADES REMARKED THAT US VIEW BOTH FRG AND GDR ARE SUCCESSORS TO NAZI GOVERNMENT WAS HELPFUL AND HAS DIRECT BEARING ON GOG EFFORT TO COLLECT WWI GERMAN DEBTS. ZOTIADES RECALLED THAT ORIGINAL GREEK CLAIM FOR DOLS. 250 MILLION HAD BEEN SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS BY MIXED TRIBUNAL DURING INTER- WAR PERIOD. TRIBUNAL WAS DISSOLVED BY NAZIS. ALTHOUGH GOG RE-INSTITUTED NEGOTIATIONS FOLLOWING WWII, GREECE HAD OBTAINED NOTHING THUS FAR.

2. ACCORDING ZOTIADES, GOG RECENTLY REJECTED FRG OFFER TO SETTLE DOLS 250 MILLION CLAIM FOR 11 MILLION DM. OFFER WAS COUPLED WITH FRG SUGGESTION GOG SEEK FURTHER COMPENSATION FROM GDR. ZOTIADES STATED THAT US HAD ALREADY RECEIVED DOLS 1 BILLION FOR PRIVATE US CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY FROM WWI AND THAT SINCE ARTICLE 4 OF LONDON DEBT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PROVIDED FOR EQUAL
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TREATMENT OF CREDITORS, GOG FELT IT WAS NOT FAIRLY HANDLED
BY BONN.

3. IN ANOTHER CONNECTION ZOTIADES SAID THAT GREECE HAD
SUSPENDED ALL TREATIES WITH GERMANY IN 1940 AND

SUBSEQUENTLY RENEGOTIATED EACH WITH FRG. HE ADDED THAT
APPLICABILITY OF PREWAR TREATIES HINGED ON SUCCESSOR
STATE ISSUE, WHICH IN TURN UNDERLAY CLAIMS ISSUE. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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